



— State of —
North Dakota
Office of the Governor
John Hoeven
Governor

PROCLAMATION
COOPERATIVE BUSINESS MONTH
OCTOBER 2003

WHEREAS, the spirit of cooperation sustains our national character, energizes the American experience and contributes bountifully to our shared prosperity; and

WHEREAS, the cooperative form of business is intrinsic to American private enterprise and our national economy. The lives of more than 120 million Americans are improved by more than 48,000 cooperative private businesses that generate more than \$500 billion in annual economic activity; and

WHEREAS, Cooperatives bring people from every walk of life and every economic condition into the American free enterprise system. They enrich our communities, large and small. Cooperatives are the means through which those who work together to build a business can attain all of its benefits and those who need service can receive it on their terms; and

WHEREAS, Cooperative businesses are created through the self-reliance of Americans who come together to meet their common economic, social, and cultural aspirations through a jointly owned and democratically controlled enterprise; and

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim October 2003, as **COOPERATIVE BUSINESS MONTH** in the State of North Dakota.

/s/
John Hoeven
Governor

Attest:

/s/
Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State